

OUR RELIGIOUS COLUMN.

Another Edition of the New Testament, with Comments by Bishop Doane. Every one knows that the English New Testament is a translation from the Greek. But every one does not know that the Greek from which the translation was made is a very imperfect, inaccurate, redundant representation of the original Gospels, Acts, Epistles, and Revelation, as they left the hands of their authors. The printers and scholars who, about the year 1550, at the instigation of Erasmus, first put the Greek Testament into type, did the best they could with the materials at their disposal. They collected and compared all the manuscripts within reach, and they formed an edition (a "text," as the technical word is) which did them credit, and the translations of which have furnished comfort and hope to millions of men and women since their day. But time went on and fresh manuscripts were discovered, older and more carefully written than those which Erasmus and Stephens had employed; and a number of passages appeared in which their edition was contradicted by more trustworthy readings. Still the original edition continued to be printed and used as a standard, and acquired the name of the "Received Text"; and all the corrections, as they were discovered day by day, were not employed to alter this text, but were added to it as notes, by which, at some future time, when all the ancient manuscripts had been found, and all the quotations of the Testament in the early Fathers of the Church had been examined, and every conceivable source explored, and men knew everything that could be known on the subject, a more correct edition might be made, which should then supersede the old "Received Text."

In process of time, as libraries were explored and Oriental monasteries rided, three manuscripts came to be discovered of earlier date and more exact execution than any others. The first of these, known as the "Vatican MS.," is in the Vatican at Rome; the second, the "Alexandrine MS.," in the British Museum; and the third, the "Sinaitic MS.," is at St. Petersburg. The date at which the first and third were written is somewhere between the year of our Lord 380 and 550; the second is a century or so later, say 450. These three manuscripts are now admitted, by those best qualified to speak on the subject, to contain the nearest approach which we yet possess, or are likely to possess, to the original writings of the Testament. No doubt there is a great difference between even these early copies and the books as they left the hands of their authors. If we could compare the original of a Gospel or Epistle with what it had become after only 250 years of copying and recopying, we should find an immense difference. It is inevitable. Even in printing, even in our day, when verbal accuracy has become almost a religion, mistakes occur in reprints; some sentences are added, others omitted, others distorted. But where books were reproduced by handwriting, and where minute accuracy was not understood or valued, and where copyists were either overzealous or very ignorant, the chances must have been immense, overwhelming, against any copy being exactly like that which it was copied from. Now Baron Tauchnitz has done—with the help of Professor Tischendorf, the most eminent scholar of our day in this line—this. He has reprinted the New Testament exactly as it stands in the English Bible, and he has put at the bottom of the page all the variations between it and the three great manuscripts spoken of, and this forms the commemorative thousandth volume of the Tauchnitz series of English works.

The redundancies are of two kinds:— 1. Words added to a sentence to complete and strengthen the sense or make it more intelligible; as, for example:— Matt. xiii. 55, "These things unto them, Have ye understood?" "These things." Mark xiii. 5, "And he stretched it out, and his hand was restored whole as the other." "And he took the father and mother." "And entered in where the damsel was lying." Luke vii. 10, "And that they were sent, returned to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick." John xi. 41, "Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid." xli. 1, "Then Jesus came to Bethany where Lazarus was which had been dead." "Then shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust." "He hoped also that money should have been given him of Paul, that he might loose him."

Occasionally these additions have a theological motive, as in Luke iv. 41, where "Christ is the Son of God;" or John ix. 38, where "Son of God" had been substituted for "Son of Man."

But by far the largest number of additions under this head consist of single words put in to remedy harshness or obscurity, which are numbered as "certain," "yet," "also," "unto them," "into him," and the like. In the ninth chapter of Matthew, for instance, there are ten such insertions:— 2 and 5, "Thy sins be forgiven thee." 9, "As Jesus passed forth from thence, he said, 'I will send you forth into all the world, and ye shall be witnesses of me.'" 13, "When Jesus heard that, he said unto them, 'Why do ye and the Pharisees fast oft?' 14, "He said unto them, 'Give place.'" 21, "Two blind men followed him, crying, 'Lord, Lord, have mercy on us.'" 22, "Brought to him a dumb man." 35, "Teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel."

2. We now come to words added to complete a quotation, or bring a statement into harmony with a parallel passage. Instances of this kind are given in Luke iv. 41, where "Christ is the Son of God;" or John ix. 38, where "Son of God" had been substituted for "Son of Man."

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this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, even as Elias did? But he turned and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of, for the Son of Man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them. And they went to another village. The precept, so parallel to this in spirit, contained in Mark xi. 23, which has formed the motive of so many a prayer, and the text of so many a sermon—"For if you do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses, neither will he blot out your iniquity of later date than either the Sinaitic or Vatican MS. Even the utterance of our Lord on the cross—Luke xxiii. 34, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do"—must pass the human censure, and be erased from the original draft of the record. To the same purport are the words in the Sermon on the Mount, in Matt. v. 44—"Bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, which is the love of your enemies; for he that loveth his enemy, perfecteth his love to the Father." Christian morality, must henceforward be swept away.

SUMMARY OF RELIGIOUS NEWS.

—The Rev. Dr. Erasmus O. Haven, late President of the University of Michigan, has been inaugurated President of the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill., on the 22nd inst. —The Rev. William H. Daniels, lately of the Congregational Church and ministry, has joined the Methodist Church, and is now employed as pastor of Clark Street Church, Chicago. —The Rev. Dr. J. C. G. Smith, of the Central Methodist Episcopal Church, who has been holding meetings in the hall at Seventeenth and Vine streets, in this city, have resolved on independent church organization. Action was taken, and the separation was consummated on the evening of the 14th inst. —The Nashville Christian Advocate says that "the union effected at the last session of the Memphis Conference of our (the Methodist Episcopal Church South) Church with the North American Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church works smoothly and satisfactorily. Like two kindred drops flowing into one, so has this union been. Preachers, members, and church property mingle readily, and all are one." —In the Methodist Church the net increase of churches (houses of worship) in this country was five hundred and seventy. Besides these, over one hundred and forty new and improved churches were built in place of old ones, making the number of dedications of Methodist Episcopal churches during the last year seven hundred and ten. The estimated value of these new edifices, including the improvements on old ones, was (as is shown by the summaries of the reports of several boards of trustees and pastors) nearly six millions of dollars.

—The Rev. E. H. Gillett, D.D., of Harlem, has been elected Professor in the University of the City of New York. —Of the ninety-five churches in the Synod of Pennsylvania, twenty-three have contributed to all the causes of the Church—a larger number than in any other synod. —The Western Presbyterian of Richmond, Virginia, does not know a single person in the Southern Presbyterian Church that would be willing to unite with the reconstructed Presbyterian body. —The 114 young men have entered Princeton College. It is rumored that another dormitory building is to be erected, called Reunion Hall, in commemoration of the Presbyterian reunion. —The Rev. Charles A. Dickoy, who has left Pittsburg, Pa., to take charge of a First Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, Mo., has been presented with a silver tea set by some members of his old charge in Allegheny, Pa. —The First Presbyterian Church of Newburyport, when it united with Presbytery, reserved for itself the right of calling its elders annually, of calling a pastor without intervention of Presbytery, and of calling in Congregational churches to assist in installing its pastors. The last privilege it had waived at the installation of its two pastors, but at the ordination of C. S. Durfee, September 8, the pastors and delegates of several Congregational Churches were invited to meet with the Presbytery. —A correspondent of the American Presbyterian says: "The young West Church in Williamsport, Delaware, is fairly on its feet in the summer, though many of our people were absent from the city, and our present house of worship—Monroe Street Chapel—is by no means in a central location, yet it has been full open to the doors, and the members are forty; forty members were added, and more are ready to enter the ranks now. We are one hundred and sixty strong, and there is a very encouraging state of religion in the congregation."

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This opportunity is taken to announce that I have just returned from Paris and London, with the latest FASHIONS. These designs being personally selected and modelled from the greatest novelties, and trimmed in a superior style, will open

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1893. With French and English Dresses, Cloaks, Mantellets, Sleeves, and Children's Costumes, Robe de Chambre, and every variety of Dress and Cloak Making in every variety. Wedding Trousseaus furnished at short notice and reasonable prices. Hats, Ribbons, Roman and Plain Ribbons and Sashes. Paris Jewellery, newest style of Jet, Gold and Shell, the latest and most elegant ever offered. Hair Bands, Combs, and Regal Nets. Dress and Cloak Trimmings, the most tasteful that can be found in the French metropolis, wholesale and retail. Bridal Veils and Wreaths. Kid Gloves, 75 cents and \$1.00 per pair. ELEGANT GOWN FOR MRS. M. WOLK'S celebrated system for Cutting Ladies' Dresses, Sashes, Basques, etc., etc. 36 stalls

GOVERNMENT SALES. AUCTION SALE OF HOSPITAL BEDDING, CLOTHING, DRESSINGS, ETC. ASSISTANT MEDICAL PURVEYOR'S OFFICE, 1101 WASHINGTON, D. C. AUGUST 20, 1893. WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION, IN THIS CITY, ON TUESDAY, the 25th day of September, 1893, at the Judiciary Square Depot, E Street, between Fourth and Fifth streets, a large quantity of HOSPITAL PROPERTY, consisting of Bedding, Clothing, and Dressings, among which will be found the following, viz:— 2,000 Blankets, 5,000 Combinations, 4,000 Sheets, 10,000 Bed Covers, 1,000 Pillow Cases, 5,000 Pillow Cases, 5,000 Linen Sheets, 10,000 Drawers, 25,000 Shirts, 5,000 Socks, 10,000 dozen Roller Bandages, 10,000 Napkins, Cotton and Woolen Tape, Picked Lint, Cotton Wadding, Red Flannel, Saddlers' Silk, Linen Thread, 14,000 pounds Condensed Milk, 20,000 pounds Butter, &c. All the above articles are new, and never have been used. Terms cash, in Government funds. Twenty-five per cent. deposit required at time of sale, and all goods to be removed in three days. CHARLES SUTHERLAND, Assistant Medical Purveyor, Brevet Colonel U. S. A. 1241

GOVERNMENT SALE OF BONDSD GOODS REMAINING IN STORE OVER ONE YEAR. WILL BE SOLD AT GODLEY'S Bonded Warehouse, GRANT STREET, ON FRIDAY, October 5, 1893, at 11 o'clock A. M., viz:— Per cargo "E. Gullas" master, from Rotterdam June 11, 1892—1 cask Gm. Mark Palm Tree—C, imported by George C. Carson & Co. Per cargo "E. Gullas" master, from New York June 19, 1892—2 casks and three 1/2 casks Wine, mark W. D. Imported by J. W. & Co. and L. B. Imported by Paul Schmidt. Per cargo "Propolis" Higgins master, from Liverpool August 6, 1892—15 bales Carpeting, mark G. (L. V. Imported by G. H. Vanuyle & Co. Per railroad line, from New York August 31, 1892—2 casks and 1/2 casks Brandy, mark A. W. Imported by A. Weniger. Per cargo "Matilda" Anderson master, from St. Bartholomew August 6, 1892—15 bales Carpeting, mark G. (L. V. Imported by G. H. Vanuyle & Co. Per cargo "Jupiter" Bradburning master, from London September 21, 1892—16 dozen bottles Wine, mark W. & Co. and L. B. Imported by Paul Schmidt. HENRY D. MOORE, Auctioneer. 9 22 25 26 27 28 29 30—10 4 5 7

GOVERNMENT SALE OF UNCLAIMED GOODS REMAINING IN STORE OVER ONE YEAR. WILL BE SOLD AT GODLEY'S Bonded Warehouse, GRANT STREET, ON FRIDAY, October 5, 1893, at 11 o'clock A. M., viz:— Per cargo "E. Gullas" master, from Rotterdam June 11, 1892—1 cask Gm. Mark Palm Tree—C, imported by George C. Carson & Co. Per cargo "E. Gullas" master, from New York June 19, 1892—2 casks and three 1/2 casks Wine, mark W. D. Imported by J. W. & Co. and L. B. Imported by Paul Schmidt. Per cargo "Propolis" Higgins master, from Liverpool August 6, 1892—15 bales Carpeting, mark G. (L. V. Imported by G. H. Vanuyle & Co. Per cargo "Jupiter" Bradburning master, from London September 21, 1892—16 dozen bottles Wine, mark W. & Co. and L. B. Imported by Paul Schmidt. HENRY D. MOORE, Auctioneer. 9 22 25 26 27 28 29 30—10 4 5 7

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REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION. REAL ESTATE—THOMAS & SONS' SALE.—Modern Three-story Brick Dwelling, No. 1729 Columbia Avenue, Twentieth Ward. On Tuesday, September 25, 1893, at 12 o'clock, noon, will be sold at public sale, at the Philadelphia Exchange, all that modern three-story brick message, with three-story back building and lot of ground, situated on the north side of Columbia Avenue, west of Seaboard street, No. 1729; containing in front on Columbia Avenue 90 feet, and extending in depth 94 feet; also, lot sitting in the rear 28 feet front and 40 feet deep, 100 feet street (forming an L). The house is well built, and in good order; has parlor, dining-room, and kitchen on the first floor; 2 chambers and sitting-room on the second floor, and 2 chambers of the third floor; gas, bath, hot and cold water, cooking range, etc. Subject to a redeemable yearly ground rent of \$20, immediate possession. May be examined any day previous to sale. Terms—Cash. M. THOMAS & SONS, Auctioneers, Nos. 129 and 141 S. FOURTH STREET.